

Unfriendly, childless, careless, that is what the Republicans are doing with the budget impasse; \$270 billion in tax cuts for the rich, and then a welfare bill that misrepresents to the American people that the Republicans want real welfare reform. No; this legislation will not correct the welfare crises. This Republican legislation takes the safety net away from innocent children.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to stand up for the children.

LIBERAL EXTREMISM

(Mr. HOKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday during special orders I heard the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] call our 7-year, \$245 billion tax cut massive. And I looked at the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Mr. Speaker, and I cannot find a single instance in which the gentlewoman used the word "massive" to describe Bill Clinton's 1993 7-year tax hike of \$400 billion.

In fact, she was a vocal advocate of that plan. She described it as "courageous, responsible, a bold initiative," and my favorite, "serious change."

Now, let me repeat this, Mr. Speaker, because I think it is important for the American people to understand where the Democrats are coming from philosophically. The liberal extremists criticize a \$245 billion tax cut by calling it massive, but they call a \$400 billion tax increase "serious change."

When it comes to letting the American people keep more of what they have earned, the liberal extremists are morally offended. But when it comes to the Government confiscating more and more money from those who have earned it, they pat themselves on the back for their courage.

REPUBLICAN RHETORIC

(Mr. KLINK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, to the previous speaker I would mention that we had in 1993 a \$250 billion tax increase and a \$250 billion cut in spending. And that did something very historical. It brought down the deficit for 3 consecutive years. We have cut in half what was almost a \$300-billion-a-year deficit, without one Republican vote.

Now we are arguing about balancing the budget. We took the vote to bring the budget much closer to balance, and the stock market reacted correctly. Employment was created in this Nation. All of the things that the naysayers on the GOP side of this House were saying were going to happen after 1993 never occurred. Not one of them has occurred.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I have noticed that since the GOP is in

control of this House, not one of those massive tax increases that they complain about have they rescinded. Not one of them have they rescinded. So the rhetoric is getting a little thick and America is beginning to notice.

PARTIAL SHUTDOWN II

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday morning there was a ray of promise. Yesterday afternoon that promise evaporated. The country cries out for a balanced budget agreement now; 260,000 Federal employees have been furloughed.

The good news is that yesterday we obtained a commitment from the Speaker and the Senate majority leader that all furloughed employees, those who are not working, will be paid. And, indeed, that is correct and it is the proper thing to do. These employees and their families should not be the victims of budget gridlock. They want to work. This is not an extended vacation. They are frustrated and anxious about their fate.

I do want to point out there are a lot of other consequences to this partial shutdown. Important research grants at NIH are not being processed. I have heard from employees who are missing important deadlines because they cannot go to work. They are frustrated and point out important work is not being done.

Each day of the shutdown 2,500 families will not be able to close on their mortgages, 260 businesses that receive SBA loans will not receive the financing they have been counting on. So many examples. This says let us resolve this impasse and do the job we were sent here to do.

'Twas THE HOLIDAY SEASON

(Mr. NADLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker:

'Twas the holiday season, and all through the House,

Any hopes for a budget, the Speaker did douse.

But the PAC checks were tacked to the chimney with care,

In hopes that a tax cut soon would be there. With Bill in discussions, but Newt's jaws aflap,

Our nation's fine workers must just take a nap.

When what to our wondering eyes should appear,

But GOP leaders spreading more fear:

Senior citizens, women and children disabled,

It seems any help for you soon will be tabled. Please don't be mad, but you're taking the fall,

So the wealthiest wealthy can soon have it all.

We Democrats greeted this warning with ire,

But Newt and his friends want cuts even higher.

So to every American watching tonight, Be assured all this the Democrats will fight.

SECRETARY OF LABOR NEEDS TO GET OUT IN THE REAL WORLD

(Mr. HOEKSTRA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, here is what the Secretary of Labor said this morning on C-SPAN. "This debate is not being driven by economic issues." I now know why the Secretary works for the Government. Everybody in the real world knows that a \$4.9 trillion debt, that \$200 billion deficits and that deficits as far out as the eye can see, those are economic issues.

The Secretary then goes on to moan that Federal workers cannot volunteer, at the same time his department has been shutting down Salvation Army bell ringers. Let us have some consistency.

Mr. Secretary, get out of the Washington puzzle palace into the real world. It will give you a better perspective on the issues and the solutions that we need to be making in America today.

SUPPORT THE COALITION BUDGET

(Mr. PAYNE of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, sometimes the answers to our problems are so obvious that we miss them entirely. That is exactly what is happening right now with this budget stalemate. The conservative Democratic coalition has created a budget that is simple. It eliminates the major stumbling blocks to a 7-year balanced budget. It asks each of us to do exactly what the American people want us to do, that is to compromise, to work together, to get the job done. It asks my Republican colleagues and the American people to forego tax cuts until we get at this balanced budget. It asks Medicare beneficiaries and their champions in Congress to recognize that Medicare has grown at an unsustainable rate and we must curb the growth of this and other entitlement programs. Yet it does not contain the kind of large Medicare cuts that have sparked so much partisan rancor here in Congress. It cuts the deficit faster and deeper than the Republican budget and it is the one budget that is balanced in 7 years according to CBO and occupies a sensible middle ground.

Mr. Speaker, that is where the American people are. So let us end this business as usual. Let us summon the political courage to do the right thing. Let us take some risks for a balanced budget. Let us pass this coalition budget.